

### REMARKS

Applicants have received and reviewed the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated January 24, 2002. By way of response, Applicants have amended claim 1. Claims 1-8, 11-27 and 56-57 are pending. No new matter is introduced. Applicants submit that the amended claim is supported by the specification.

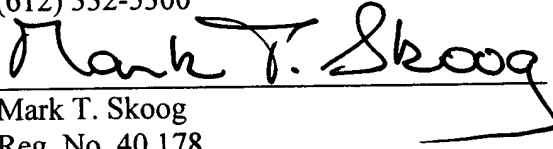
Applicants submit herewith a corrected "clean" version of claims 1, as requested by the Examiner.

### Summary

In summary, each of claims 1-8, 11-27 and 56-57 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below, if the Examiner believes that doing so will expedite prosecution of this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

  
Mark T. Skoog  
Reg. No. 40,178

Date: Feb 27, 2002